President's Report 2024

Table of Contents

1–3
Letter from the President & 150th Highlights

4–5
Common Good Awards

6–7
Design Innovation at MassArt

8–9
Opening Doors to Arts Education

10–11
Developing a More Diverse Workforce

12–13
The Transformative Impact of MassArt Alumni

14–15
Creating a Culture of Philanthropy

16–17
MassArt in the Community

18–19
Visionary Leadership in Action

Massachusetts College of Art and Design is a public, independent institution that prepares artists, designers, and educators from diverse backgrounds to shape communities, economies, and cultures for the common good.

COVER ART

The Breeze at Dawn has secrets to tell

Cicely Carew '05

Dear Friends,

2023 was a joyous and exciting year recognizing 150 years of MassArt's profound impact on our city, our state, our nation, and the world. I'm delighted to share that we've started the next 150 years with the same passionate sense of purpose that has defined us since our founding.

It was my great privilege to celebrate such an important milestone with our community, and every experience I shared and each conversation I had affirmed what I knew to be true when I came to MassArt in 2021: This is a community that both exemplifies and champions the vital and transformative role of art and design in civic life.

In a world where uncertainty and turmoil often dominate the headlines, I'm beyond thankful that our students hold the keys to the future. They are curious, open-hearted, dynamic, and endlessly resourceful; the crackling, unmistakable energy they bring to ideating, creating, and innovating permeates every corner of our campus.

They are following a trail blazed by our alumni and faculty: leaders and changemakers who speak up with boldness, integrity, and courage to give voice to those who have been marginalized or silenced. They reckon fearlessly with the challenges we've faced throughout our complex history—challenges we still face today.

We honor alumna and public memory artist, Karen Frostig, BFA '70, and her bravery in elevating her family's deeply personal experience of the Holocaust to a global stage at the United Nations' annual commemoration of the 1945 liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau. We recognize artist and MassArt faculty member, Keith Morris Washington, BFA '93, and his extraordinary efforts to document the landscapes of lynching sites across the United States. We're excited to share the work of Mel Taing, BFA '06: an acclaimed photographer co-directing and producing a documentary that tells the story of Boston's new library branch in Chinatown—the first permanent branch in Chinatown since 1956.

Through their unflinching gaze, we see ourselves more clearly, and find the inspiration we need to keep reaching for the common good that anchors MassArt's mission statement—and that labels our Common Good Awards, commemorated for the first time in December of last year.

We are also inspired by how our alumni and faculty advocate for the role of artists in public life. Julie Wake, BFA '07, Executive Director at Arts Foundation of Cape Cod, argues that creators and makers belong at every important table, where their strength as witnesses, storytellers, and advocates can provide invaluable perspective. Jeanette Luise Eberhardy, Ph.D., MFA, and MassArt faculty member, designs educational experiences that teach learners and leaders of all kinds how to tell their unique stories with confidence.

There's so much more we are excited to share with you about what's happening at MassArt right now—and that's what the report you're reading is all about. You'll discover how we're helping build a more diverse workforce in the arts through unique opportunities like the Catalyst Fellows @ MAAM; how we're supporting first-generation college students in accomplishing their goals through the Compass program; how the drumbeat of innovation is powering our industry collaborations with companies like Tatum Robotics; and how a growing culture of philanthropy is providing us with a rock-solid foundation for all that lies ahead for MassArt.

I have no doubt you'll share my excitement as we look back on all we've accomplished in the past year and give you a glimpse at what's next—and I extend my warmest thanks for your support.

Sincerely,

Mary

Mary K. Grant, PhD
President, Massachusetts College of Art and Design

Photo Credit: Kelly Davidson

Highlights from 150 Years of MassArt

Inauguration

January 20, 2023
Governor Maura Healey joined us for the inauguration of Dr. Mary K. Grant as the 13th President of MassArt

MassArt Art Museum (MAAM) Exhibitions

January 26–July 30, 2023
My Mothers, May Stevens '46
They Are Part, Jace Clayton

Presidential Puck Drop @ Boston Pride Game

February 5, 2023

MAAM Public Program

April 26, 2023
"Art, Feminism, and Activism in Action" with the Guerilla Girls

MassArt Auction

April 1, 2023
Providing vital scholarship aid and academic program support for deserving students.

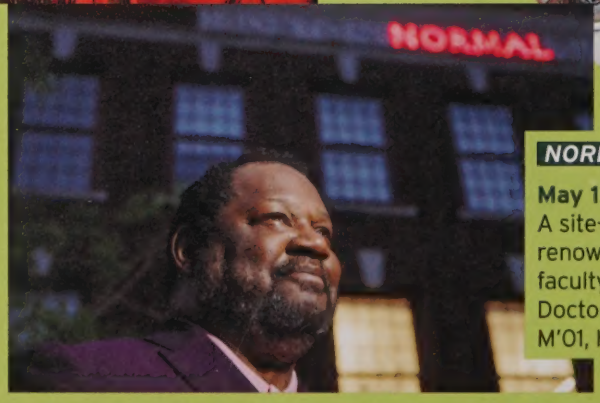
Commencement @ Leader Bank Pavilion

May 18, 2023

- Commencement speaker: Oscar-nominated independent film and documentary director and Honorary Degree recipient, Debra Granik
- Honorary Doctorate recipients: Rob "ProBlak" Gibbs, local visual artist, organizer, and community builder, and M. David Lee, architect, planner, and educator
- Morton R. Godine Award recipient: Dr. Katherine Sloan, MassArt President Emerita

Fashion Show 2023: Revival

May 13, 2023
Showcasing the unique and compelling vision of the fashion and textile designers of MassArt's Fashion Design department



NORMAL

May 15, 2023
A site-specific installation by renowned artist, alumnus, former faculty member, and Honorary Doctorate recipient, Steve Locke '97, M'01, H'22

Photo Credits: Amy Fink, Elizabeth Friar, Melissa Ostrow, Mike Ritter

MassArt Night at Fenway Park and Presidential Pitch

May 31, 2023

MassArt at 150: Tradition & Innovation @ Mass Historical Society

May 25, 2023

Honoring the ten-year partnership between the MassArt Illustration Department and the venerable Handel + Haydn Society, and recognizing 150 years of art, design, and innovation by MassArt alumni

MAAM Exhibition

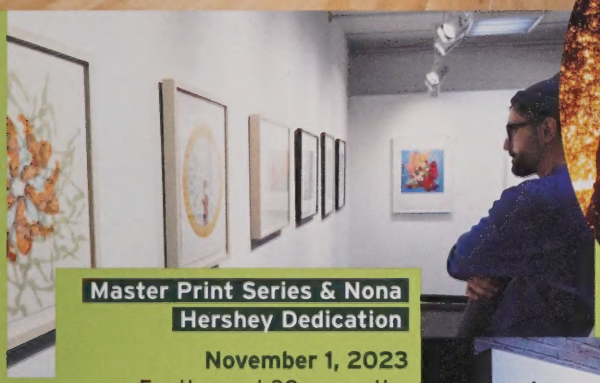
October 5, 2023-May 19, 2024

The Myth of Normal: A Celebration of Authentic Expression guest-curated by Mari Spirito '92

Iron Pour

October 22, 2023

Presenting *Generations of Iron*, a tribute to community and kinship to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of MassArt by Fine Arts 3D professor, Marjee-Anne Levine and the MassArt Iron Corps



Master Print Series & Nona Hershey Dedication

November 1, 2023

For the past 30 years, the Master Print Series has evolved and expanded into an annual event that brings together renowned contemporary artists in collaboration with MassArt printmaking students

Tyrone Maurice Adderley Lecture

November 7, 2023

- Featuring Sarah Elizabeth Lewis, the John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Humanities and Associate Professor of African and African American Studies at Harvard for the Fall 2023 Tyrone Maurice Adderley Lecture
- We were honored to be joined by Tyrone's family for the program and reception to remember his life.
- The accompanying exhibition celebrated the work of the young artist himself, "in his own terms," through his paintings

Common Good Awards

December 16, 2023

Honoring exceptional work at the intersection of art and civic life

Special thanks to archivist **Danielle Sangelang**, **Joyce Linehan**, and co-chairs **James Mason** and **Marjorie O'Malley** for their planning and coordination of our 150th Anniversary programs and thank you to every member of the MassArt community and the public who attended or supported this incredible anniversary year.

Celebrating the Impact of Art and Design on Civic Life

The MassArt Common Good Awards recognize and celebrate individuals and organizations that push the boundaries of advocacy, teaching, placemaking, design thinking, and making in the realm of arts and culture—emphasizing the public influence of arts and its role in problem-solving and quality of life. On December 16, 2023, the College was thrilled to honor its six inaugural Common Good Awardees.

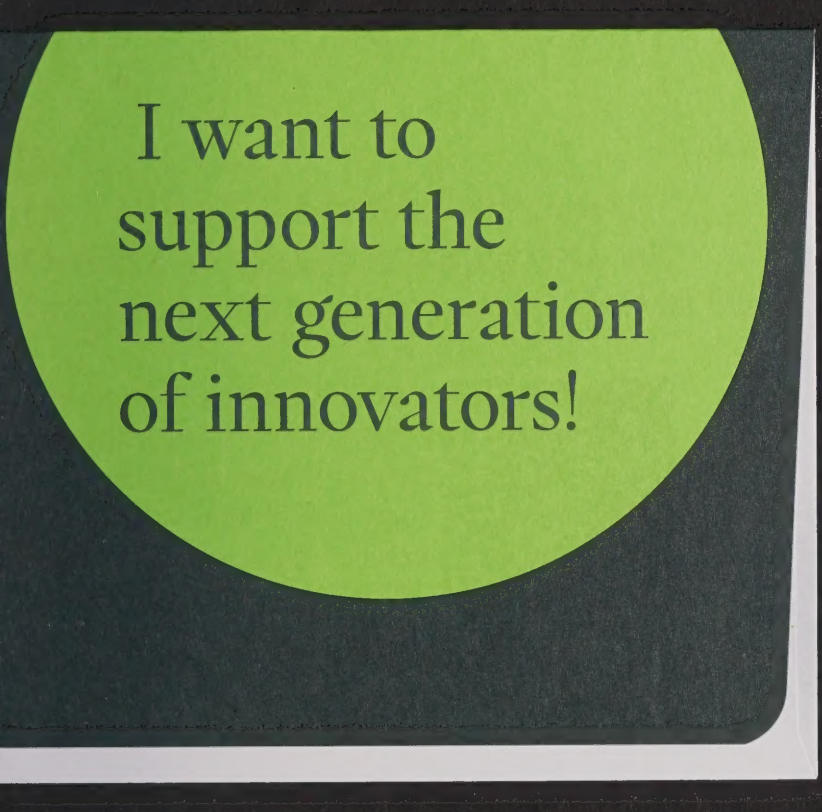
Silvia López Chavez

Dominican-American artist and alumna Silvia López Chavez '00 was honored with the 2023 Distinguished Alumni Award for her community-centered murals in the Commonwealth and beyond that forge connections across disciplines and cultural boundaries. Her work transforms urban spaces by honoring the identity of a place and its people. Silvia was also chosen as a 2023 Brother Thomas Fellow by The Boston Foundation and the Pucker Gallery.

Western Avenue Studios, Lowell

Karl Frey and his wife Patty Cullen were honored along with the Arts and Business Council of Greater Boston for their partnership to permanently preserve Western Avenue in Lowell, MA. Western Avenue is comprised of 250 artist work studios, 50 artist live/work lofts, an artist gallery, and a 250-person live music performance venue. Over 30 studios are occupied by MassArt alums.

Photo Credits: Domenic Chavez, Henry Marte, Mike Ritter


I want to
support the
next generation
of innovators!

MassArt F
621 Huntington A
Boston MA 02115

Wilco

Wilco was honored for Solid Sound, the festival they founded in 2010 in partnership with the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art (Mass MoCA) in North Adams. This longstanding civic institution that brings thousands of people, economic activity, an unmistakable sense of community, and international visibility to one of the most beautiful corners of the Commonwealth.

The Secret Society of Black Creatives

SSBC founders Evelyn Brito, Malik Williams, alumni Vladimir Minuty '99, and MassArt faculty member, Nerissa Williams Scott were honored for their work to create a dedicated pipeline for Black creators into film, music, advertising, and other areas of production.

Dr. Lisa Wong

Pediatrician, musician, and author, Dr. Wong, was honored for her diverse work on programs at the intersection of art and health. During the pandemic, Lisa helped create Boston Hope Music to provide music and music education virtually to patients, staff, and caregivers. Most recently, she has been working with the Massachusetts Cultural Council on Culture Rx, an innovative initiative designed to improve health and well-being through cultural participation.

Jozeph Zaremba

Recently retired Boston Public Schools art teacher Jozeph Zaremba '81 was honored with the inaugural Frances Euphemia Thompson Award for Excellence in Teaching. "Mr. Z" taught at the Henderson Inclusion and Harbor Schools in Dorchester and is a two-time Fund for Teachers fellowship recipient, art director at Boys and Girls Club of Dorchester, and a founding teacher at the Harbor School. Mr. Zaremba inspired a generation of young students.

Building Bridges and Changing Lives Through Innovation

MassArt alumni, faculty, staff, and students are changemakers with purpose. Whether they're developing tools to improve the lives of individuals and communities, or collaborating across disciplines to solve problems, innovation is a constant drumbeat.

Fashion Design x Tatum Robotics

Tatum Robotics, a Boston-based assistive technology startup, has developed a groundbreaking tool called the Tatum T1 Fingerspelling Hand to provide much-needed support and freedom to the DeafBlind community.

DeafBlind individuals, who can neither hear nor see, use a method called "tactile signing" to communicate. The T1 is a robotic hand/wrist system that performs all the handshapes of tactile ASL, enabling users to receive signs based on live text or voice input, through data from communication mediums (such as emails and text on websites), and remote, real-time signing (similar to telecom relay systems already in place for the Deaf.)

Seniors in the MassArt Fashion Design program joined forces with Tatum and members of the DeafBlind community to create a special glove that provides users with the best possible experience with their T1 device. They experimented with different fabrics, colors, and methods of construction to get to the eventual successful design.

The result after research, prototyping, testing, and refinement was an affordable, easy-to-use glove that optimizes both form and function, giving DeafBlind users the freedom they deserve.

Photo Credits: Amy Fink, Tony Luong

MassArt x Olin College of Engineering

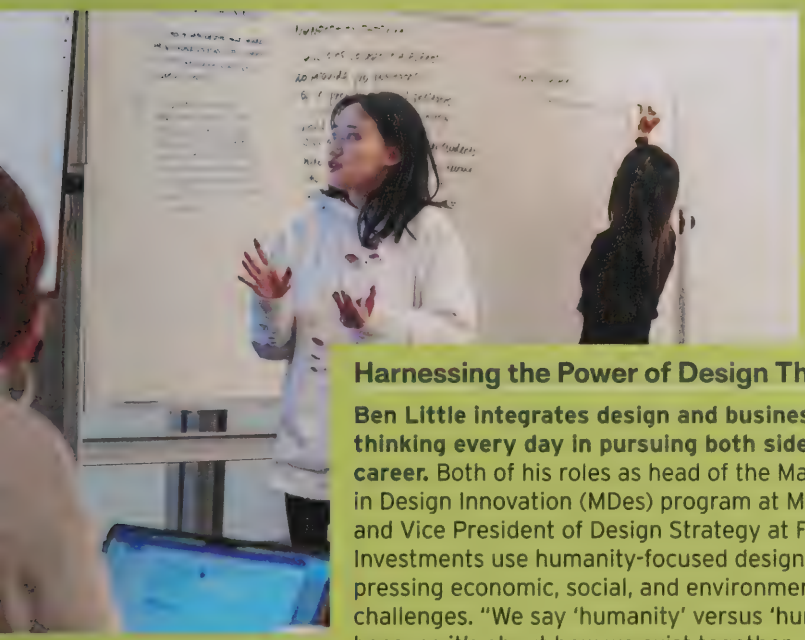
What happens when you put industrial designers, fine artists, and engineers into a lab together and let their imaginations run wild?

Jamie Read, professor and Chair of Industrial Design at MassArt, James McLeod, professor and chair of the Fine Arts 3D department, and Ben Linder, professor of Design and Mechanical Engineering and Affordable Design and Entrepreneurship Director at Olin College, brought their students together for the "Bridging Digital Fabrication and Traditional Craftsmanship" course at MassArt.

James explains: "We wanted to create a course that would make the best use of all of the new tools we had access to in the FABLAB maker spaces at MassArt. We devised a process that would integrate Industrial Design and Engineering, and the use of these tools for experimentation. The twist was that the results would be expressed in glass: a traditional medium many of our students might not have worked with. It was a way to break down silos."

Jamie was thrilled to see the Olin students and MassArt students working closely together from the beginning, and using their unique skill sets to benefit their collaborations. "MassArt is such a maker culture, but the Olin students infused our creative thinkers with more calculated approaches to problem-solving. The Olin students were extraordinarily open-minded and iterative—we were thrilled at how quickly they picked everything up."

For Maddie Johnson-Harwitz '25, the class provided an opportunity to dive into areas she hadn't yet explored at MassArt. "I was challenged to create a piece that took advantage of all of the equipment we had access to for the course. I was able to take advantage of facilities and faculty that I never would have approached and learned things I never expected to learn. The experience pushed me to think creatively, and I have more confidence in my skills now."



Harnessing the Power of Design Thinking: the Masters in Design Innovation (MDes)

Ben Little integrates design and business thinking every day in pursuing both sides of his career. Both of his roles as head of the Masters in Design Innovation (MDes) program at MassArt and Vice President of Design Strategy at Fidelity Investments use humanity-focused design to solve pressing economic, social, and environmental challenges. "We say 'humanity' versus 'human' because it's about how we exist together—not just our experiences as individuals."

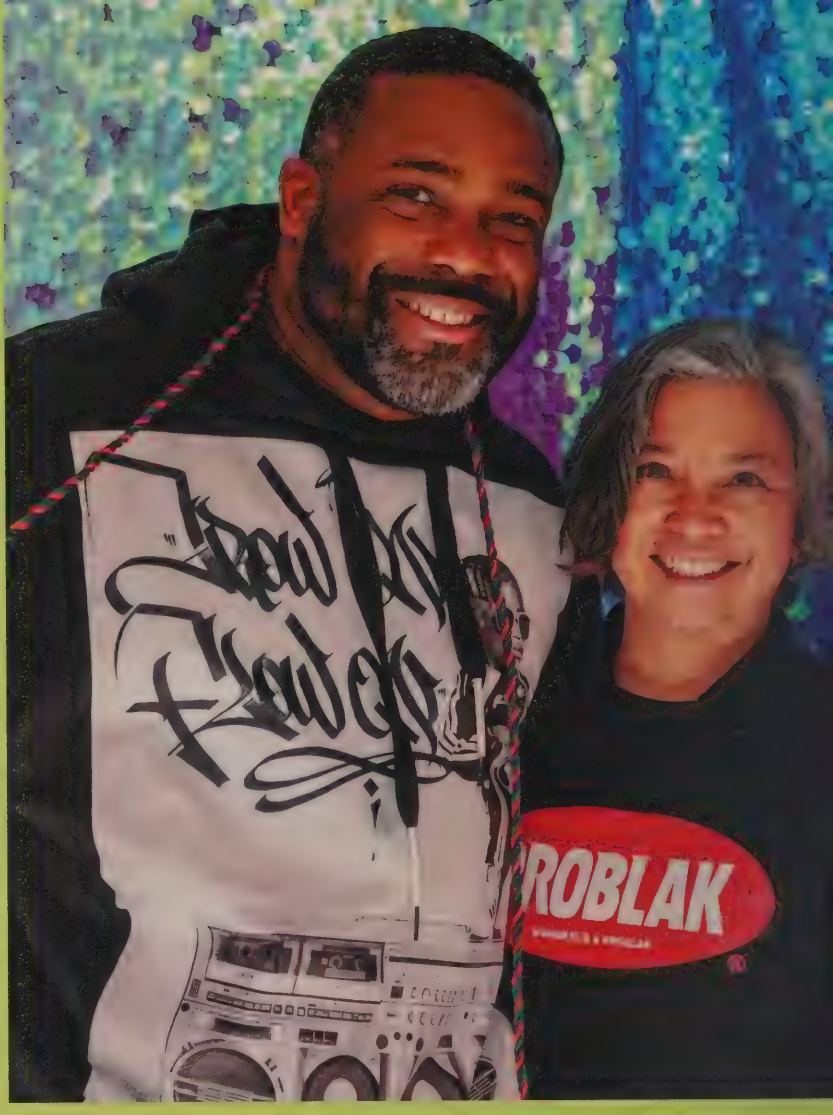
The MDes program prepares students to use design thinking to drive organizational and social transformation within communities, corporations, nonprofits, educational institutions, and startups. MDes students learn to identify problems and their causes, develop creative solutions to those problems, and make strategic decisions that push progress forward without leaving people behind—what they call "design with dignity".

Ben's own educational and vocational background combines music, business, healthcare, user experience, and more, which also reflects the innately interdisciplinary nature of the faculty, students, and partners who make up the program. He encourages MDes students to draw on their unique backgrounds, skillsets, and experiences to work together toward solutions. "The most important skills we are developing and building on—and that we should continue to build on—are empathy, contextual understanding, analysis, and effective communication. You can't innovate without them."

The MDes program is a full-time, two-year 60 credit-hour program.

Opening Doors to Arts Education, Careers—and a Lifetime of Practice

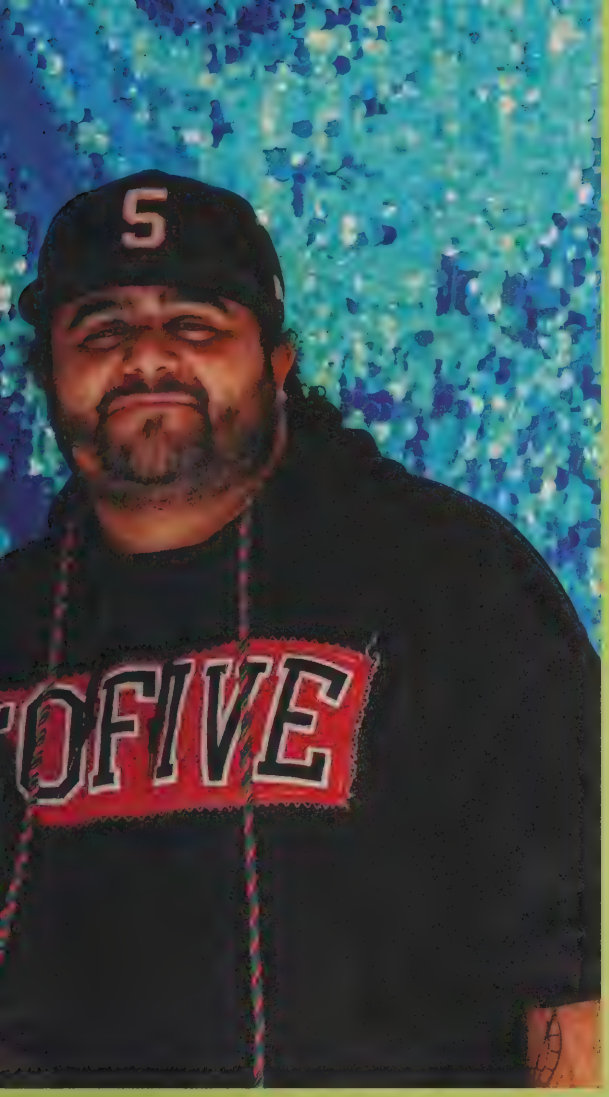
The Compass Program at MassArt was founded in 2001 to meet the unique needs of first generation students, who in 2023 made up 28% of the student population.



"First-gen" students can often face an uphill battle before and after their arrival on campus, including financial constraints, culture shock in different dimensions, challenges with academic preparation, and discomfort with navigating complex systems.

Compass is there to work closely with faculty, Student Development, Housing and Residence Life, and other college-wide departments to ensure first-gens make a successful transition to MassArt. Weekly workshops, retreats, lectures, conversations with visiting artists, and other programming provide opportunities for honest conversation and reflection.

To further these efforts, MassArt recently joined the First Scholars Network, a project of the national organization, Center for First Generation Student Success, and hosted a special event, "Normalizing the First-Gen Experience at MassArt": a panel discussion full of stories, tips for overcoming challenges, and more, featuring MassArt alumni artists.



Lyssa Palu-ay '01 MFA

Dean of the Office of Justice, Equity, and Transformation
(Oversees Compass Program)

I earned my MFA in photography from MassArt, but actually started my creative career a little late. My bachelor's is in political science; as an undergrad, I didn't even know where the art department was! I finally gave myself permission to pursue photography and see where it would lead me. It brought me to MassArt, where I found a place to play creatively and ask questions. I felt so supported and welcomed here. Through my work in the Justice, Equity, and Transformation (JET) Office, I want to extend that welcoming feeling that I experienced.

With JET, we're seeding equity through the whole institution. That means we're making explicit efforts to support and create a sense of belonging for BIPOC students and community members. And bringing awareness to the challenges these students may face while navigating a curriculum that—in some cases—is still very Eurocentric.

We need to acknowledge that our school has had practices in the past that might have marginalized people.

Every field is coming to terms with that right now. In our state, there are formal, explicit efforts to engage in these types of discussions. This past year, I joined Governor Maura Healey's Advisory Council for the Advancement of Representation in Education. It was formed in light of the Supreme Court's decision to overturn affirmative action in college admissions.

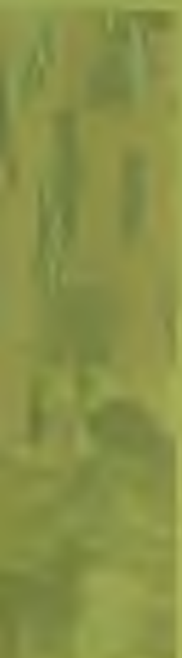
The goal (of the Council) is to create partnerships and pathways from K-12, nonprofits, and the business community to higher education. It's a great opportunity to look at our policies and practices and really think creatively about how we might enact our mission as a public college to create greater access and opportunities for all students.

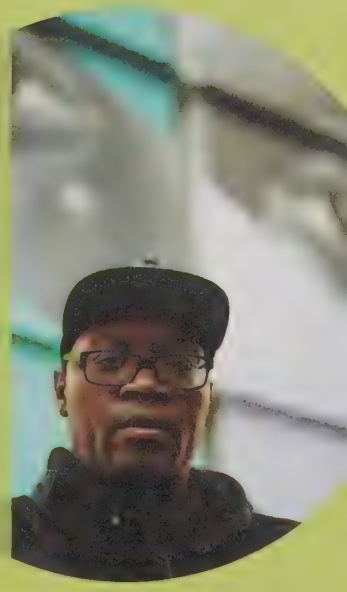
MassArt has an amazing 150-year foundation. It's really about stretching and growing and creating a space where we can imagine other things.

Lyssa Palu-ay with Honorary Degree Recipient 2023 Rob "ProBlak" Gibbs and alum Genaro "Go Five" Ortega '09.

Cedric Douglas '11 BFA

MAAM *Myth of Normal* artist and Compass Program participant





When Cedric Douglas arrived at MassArt in 2007, he became the first person in his family to attend a four-year college. There were times when the ins and outs of higher education seemed like a bit of a mystery.

"I didn't really have anyone to talk to about how stuff worked," Cedric says. "My parents didn't know how to guide me because they didn't have that college experience."

But Cedric wasn't alone. He took advantage of the MassArt Compass Program, which supports first-generation college students with financial advising, mentorship, tutoring, and other resources. Through his Compass mentors, he found invaluable help navigating college, and also discovered a creative community that shaped his growth as an artist.

"All the mentors I had through Compass helped me see art the way I see it today," he says. "There are just so many amazing people there. And I'm friends with some of them to this day."

Those Compass Program connections came full circle in 2023 when Cedric was commissioned to create a mural on the facade of the MassArt Art Museum. "It's one of my favorite projects," Cedric says of the mural, which he named *The Majestic*.

"Like a lot of my work, it's about empowering Black folks and celebrating Black excellence. It's a visual representation of the work that I'm trying to put out into the world. I got to apply the skills I learned (at MassArt) to create this really powerful piece, and it features two Compass Program students."

Photo Credits: Nick Surette, Mel Taing

Developing a More Diverse Workforce in Arts and Culture

At MassArt, we are proud to pioneer programs, fellowships, and funding opportunities that broaden access to arts education and careers. The strength of our college and our community depends on the diversity of voices who come here to tell their stories.

Donors Supporting a Diverse Student Community

The Rappaport Foundation and the Cummings Foundation were proud to support MassArt's Artward Bound program this past year. This free four-year college prep and access program provides Boston-area high school students interested in art and design with the artistic, academic, and life skills they need to thrive.

The Rappaport Foundation provided a **$250,000** grant to the program—the youngest population the Foundation has ever supported. The Cummings Foundation awarded a **$100,000** grant to invest in this valuable work.

Catalyst Fellows @ MassArt Art Museum

The goal of the MassArt Art Museum (MAAM) Catalyst Fellows Initiative is to educate, train, and empower the next generation of arts and museum professionals to change our field and help realize a more equitable art world and workforce.

The MAAM Catalyst Fellows (MCF) Initiative encourages and supports BIPOC students to explore careers in museums and the arts. Catalyst Fellows work in specific areas at MAAM and receive an hourly wage, in addition to a scholarship award of **$2,500**. MCFs work closely with, and are supervised by, a MAAM team member in Education, Exhibitions, or Operations/Outreach.

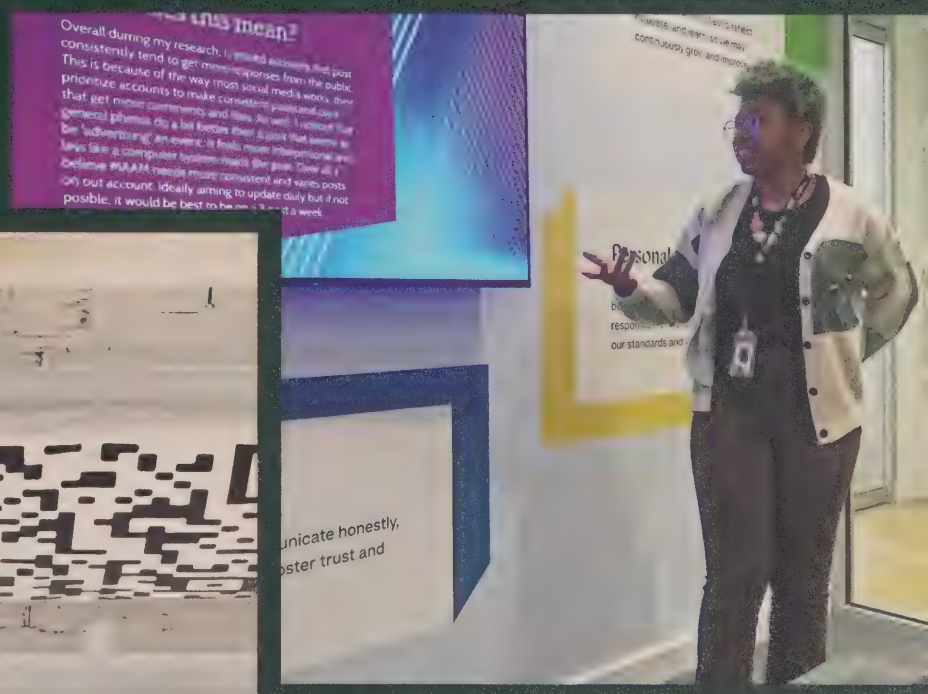
To further foster rich professional development, networking, and leadership opportunities, we pair each Catalyst Fellow with a respected BIPOC mentor in the museum field. At key moments throughout the academic year, Catalyst Fellows and mentors come together for reflection, conversation, and professional mentorship.

In spring 2023, we were proud to partner with Catalyst Fellows Mentors from the following institutions:

- Institute of Contemporary Art (Boston, MA)
- Harvard Art Museums (Cambridge, MA)
- Taft Museum of Art (Cincinnati, OH)

"I felt comfortable and proud to be a Catalyst Fellow @ MAAM. I learned a lot throughout my time in the office and will certainly continue in pursuit of a museum career because of it."

Jennifer Turner
MAAM CATALYST FELLOW (EDUCATION)



JET BIPOC Fund

The Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) Fund is a student-created initiative in partnership with the Office of Justice, Equity & Transformation. The fund provides financial support to MassArt students in their studio art practice, senior degree, and thesis projects to support the successful completion of their degree, and ensure their contributions are reflected in our society. It was established during the resurgence of the Black Lives Matter movement following the death of George Floyd on May 25, 2020.

The BIPOC fund will support students from underrepresented and underserved groups during their senior year to assist them in the successful completion of their degrees and ensure their contributions are reflected in our society. In Spring 2023, we awarded 20 students a total of $7,550. This spring, 2024, we are awarding 30 students a total of $11,900.

Photo Credit: MAAM staff

The Transformative Impact of MassArt Alumni

Everywhere you find them in action, MassArt alumni are standouts. They are creative, empathetic individuals who practice their art in uncompromising ways, often pursuing multi-hyphenate careers that transcend discipline or industry. Most of all, they form the beating heart of their communities, confronting inequity and injustice with courage and passion. Here are just a few of their stories.

Cicely Carew '05

Boston-based artist, educator, and wellness coach (and President's Report featured cover artist), Cicely Carew, blurs the boundaries between disciplines in an expression of sensory transfiguration and delight. She works from a place of improvisation and spiritual embodiment and uses her unique language of abstraction to signal the transformative power of joy and liberation. Her artistic practice spans immersive installations, collages, sculptural assemblages, painting, and video/sound meditations.

Carew's public art commissions frequently occupy and energize space as a political act of collective care. In 2021, Carew completed *Ambrosia*, a site-specific commission at the Prudential Center: a 5,000 sq. ft. installation that took the shape of three-dimensional paintings and mobilized an embodied engagement with art. Viewers were invited to walk around and under the suspended mixed-media hybrids, and to peek through their cascading, ethereal layers.

In July 2023, she unveiled her public art commission *Wishing Well* as part of the Jewish Arts Collaborative's "Be the Change" initiative. This interactive space addresses the complex process of healing mental health and ancestral trauma in BIPOC communities, thus serving as a reminder that when one is helped, all will benefit. Cicely was also named as a Brother Thomas Fellow by the Boston Foundation and Pucker Gallery in 2023.

Mel Taing '16

After graduating from MassArt with a degree in film and video, filmmaker, photographer, and community artist, Mel Taing decided to go into photography; it was a language she felt fluent in, and it made sense as her best path after college.

All that changed when she was inspired to tell the story of the new Boston Public Library Chinatown Branch in her upcoming documentary, *OVERDUE*. "It's an important film because Chinatown hasn't had a permanent library branch since 1956. We want to uplift every community member who made bringing a permanent library branch to Chinatown possible, 70 years later. It's a story about reclamation, repair, and restoration."

Mel is always open to new challenges and projects and believes her willingness to say, "Yes!" has been the North Star in her choices. That, and the perspective she developed at MassArt. "I believe my continued connection to the MassArt community has supported these new and different career paths every step of the way.

"That's why I'm vice chair of the Alumni Leadership Council. We work to connect MassArt graduates, back to the school, and to current students. When students graduate from MassArt, we want them to know they're still part of our community–and that there's so much ahead for them to say, 'yes' to, too."

Photo Credits: Susan Byrne, Tyler Noctryn, Mel Taing, Mike Lovett

Karen Frostig '70

Cultural historian, public memory artist, and professor, Karen Frostig, has moved between media and genres throughout her career, continually confronting the power of silence to oppress communities and individuals—and the power of shared memory to transform them. Her work takes many shapes, including the creation of large, hand-crafted group memorial shrouds—a covering that would normally clothe a body for burial—that elevate and give material weight to our shared experience of grief.

Karen's *Locker of Memory* multimedia project began with her memory of tiny passport photos of her paternal grandparents framed on the wall in her family's home in Waltham—photos her father never spoke about, yet their presence loomed large.

Her father fled Vienna in 1938 and ultimately landed in Cuba. In late 1941, his parents were deported to Jungfernhof, the first Nazi concentration camp in Latvia, where they died shortly thereafter. Locker memorializes the nearly 4,000 Jewish people deported from Germany and Austria to Jungfernhof in late 1941. She and a team of scholars have uncovered and documented the forgotten history of the camp, where she is working to have a memorial placed in what is now a recreational park.

She has also led the creation of a "Day of Remembrance" at Brandeis University in April 2024 that will further memorialize Jungfernhof, as well as the nameless graves from Waltham's own Metfern cemetery. The group memorial shroud for this commemoration has been created in collaboration with a team of MassArt students.

Keith Washington '93

Artist and MassArt alumnus and professor, Keith Morris Washington, has created a diverse body of work that investigates meaning and metaphor. His landscapes and full-body portraits explore memory, identity, and social themes, that are latent and often obscured by visible features, cultural (mis)understanding, and time. His work has often explored Black identity in America, by using art to highlight the violence that Black people have faced over the centuries.

One of his recent projects, *Within Our Gates: Site and Memory in the American Landscape*, locates just a few of the many lynching sites across the United States, interrogating the cruel reality of these nearly forgotten crime scenes against the bucolic imagery of the Hudson River and Luminist traditions. Each work is simply named for the victim and the location.

As Keith puts it, his goal is to make a, "beautiful painting of a location that has a tragic history to it." As he walks the spaces he will later paint, he meditates on the person who was lost to violence, and how he will ensure their legacy will not be lost. "For me, part of this is to go to the places to bear witness, because it is, for me, about honoring the memories of the victims."

Julie Wake '07

Julie Wake enrolled in MassArt's architecture program after several years in the workforce and became the first in her family to earn a college degree. The lessons she learned about how environmental architecture and design can reflect the needs of people who interact with the world led her to her first post-collegiate role as Communications Director for the Housing Assistance Corporation.

Now Julie serves as Executive Director at the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod, a nonprofit that supports Cape-based artists through extracurricular arts activities, artist grants, and personal development opportunities. "MassArt gave me the confidence and cachet to come in and be confident and fearless in a job like this one. The school thinks of its students as future leaders and entrepreneurs."

Julie is passionate about expanding access to the arts throughout Cape Cod and amplifying the role of art and artists in public life. "Artists are critical to our humanity. The rest of the community learns from them. Our society needs artists in conversations; to talk to somebody who sees the world in a completely different way."

She was appointed by Governor Healey in 2023 to serve on the Mass Cultural Council Governing Council.

The Art of Giving: Creating a Culture of Philanthropy at MassArt

Nona Hershey: Opening Up the World for Students Through Planned Giving

Professor emerita and artist, Nona Hershey's name is synonymous with Printmaking at MassArt. Students, alumni, and faculty alike have prized her skill, creativity, and generous mentorship over her 25 years of teaching and mentoring there.

She retired from full-time teaching in 2018, but Nona is still a frequent and much-loved presence on campus. "I love being at MassArt. The students, facilities, and faculty are extraordinary, the energy is electric and, as the only free-standing state art school in the country, its commitment to high quality, affordable education aligns with my outlook in every way."

Now Nona's legacy will continue through a planned gift to the Longwood Fund in support of MassArt students who wish to study overseas as part of their education–an experience she has seen change her students' lives.

> "I have witnessed how studying abroad has transformed students who become immersed in new cultures, meet international artists, learn new ideas and return as different people enjoying a larger world view and poised to apply a renewed sense of creativity in their work. I am remembering MassArt in my estate plans because studying abroad was very important in my life."

Photo Credits: Melissa Ostrow, Rose Cataudella, Chloe Ronco

You Gotta Have HEART

On MassHEART Day, May 2, 2023, we celebrated 150 years of putting HEART into everything we do. We made a bold statement on this community-centered Day of Giving by coming together to fight for what's important: affordable, accessible, high-quality art and design education for promising creators across backgrounds.

Making MassArt Possible

Many of our students receive funding to be able to afford their MassArt education, and they often share the difference this support has made in their lives—made possible by our generous donors. Here are a few thoughts shared by our recipients.

$45,000
raised during our fifth-ever MassHEART Day, from over

300
community members, helping to unlock

$15,000
of bonus matching funds from community leaders.

"Being a commuter student and not being able to afford to live on campus means that a lot of my funds are paycheck to paycheck, especially during the school year when I work to afford the weekly pile of train tickets into Boston. The security that I feel I've gained knowing that someone supports me is incredible!"

Hayden Nupcharoen BFA '24

"As the upcoming school year approached, I felt a sense of overwhelming uncertainty and doubt, wondering if I could ever afford to pursue my passion. Your selfless support has alleviated those fears, giving me the confidence to embrace this journey wholeheartedly."

Harley Dougherty MFA '24

"As a working student, I am grateful for every opportunity I get to continue to pursue what I am truly passionate about. I really take my painting practice seriously because I feel it reflects who I am in the most honest way. I enjoy writing and photography in my spare time as well and use both frequently in my painting practice as they often play off each other. I hope to use these skills in the future to start my own business and eventually go back to school for art therapy. Your generosity helps me spend more time creating and exploring and less time working to pay the bills."

Tara Bilotta BFA '24

Center for Art and Community Partnerships: MassArt making a difference in the community.

At MassArt, playing a positive, constructive role in our community is one of the most important ways we work to achieve the "common good" that serves as the anchor for our mission statement. These are just a few of the ways we engage with people of all ages in the communities that surround our urban campus.

"My work at my partner site has helped me become a more conscious educator, and I enjoy learning from the youth just as much as I enjoy teaching them."

Kaitlyn Murray BFA '26

About the Center for Art and Community Partnerships

The Center for Art and Community Partnerships (CACP) mission is to partner with people and communities within and beyond MassArt to radically expand access to transformative creative experiences. CACP engages people of all ages by building relationships through programs and partnerships. CACP believes that art and design are dynamic, transformative tools in building and nurturing a community rooted in social justice. We embrace inclusive approaches in which artists, designers, partners, and the wider public co-create and learn from one another.

The CACP Humanifesto

The Humanifesto reflects the CACP's guiding values:

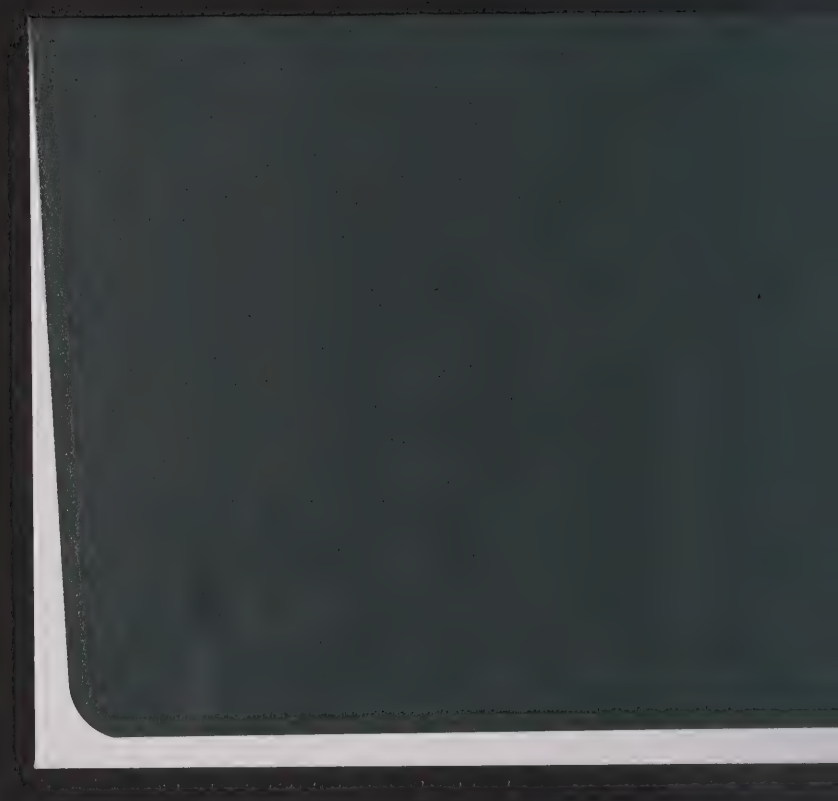
- We lead with love to inspire learning and to balance equity with belonging.
- We lead with generosity to create community colored with culture.
- We lead with listening to promote trust and appreciation for the value of each voice, each gesture and the well-being of our world.

PartnershipWORKS

The CACP employs students to be productive citizen artists and designers whose work has a positive impact in society. Through the PartnershipWORKS program, MassArt students work with community organizations as teachers, designers, illustrators, and more. In these year-long paid placements, MassArt students contribute their art and design skills, learn from and with community members, and widen their lenses of Boston and beyond.

PLEASE
PLACE STAMP
HERE

ndation
ue



sparc! the ArtMobile

***sparc! the ArtMobile* is both a retrofitted van fully equipped with art supplies, and a dynamic team of MassArt staff and students that travels off-campus into Boston's neighborhoods providing free, intergenerational arts programming.**

Our *sparc!* team collaborates with artists, cultural and municipal organizations, and schools to use shared resources and share the joy of creativity. From Paint Nights to annual community events such as Juneteenth Emancipation Observances, *sparc!* leads with love as a catalyst for dynamic learning and teaching and welcomes people at all ages and stages.

> "Participating with sparc! brought me a deeper understanding about the role that art plays in uniting families, neighborhoods, and even institutions."
>
> **Beatriz Whitehill MFA '23**

Special Community Collaboration: Haley House

Each year MassArt students create over 300 ceramic bowls to contribute to Haley House's Souper Bowl fundraiser, benefitting their food- and housing-justice programs. At this joyous community event, attendees select one of the handmade ceramic bowls and sample a variety of soups deliciously prepared by local organizations.

Leading up to the Souper Bowl, we invite Haley House community members to make and glaze bowls in the MassArt Ceramics studios along with the MassArt student group "Clay for Change." Haley House invites MassArt collaborators to cook together in their prep kitchen. This year was the 14th annual Souper Bowl and the 13th year that MassArt has been an integral partner.

Haley House is a local community organization that uses food and the power of community to break down barriers between people, transfer new skills, and build community. Haley House is a close and committed partner to CACP, collaborating on a number of programs and projects each year.

Photos courtesy of CACP and Amy Fink

Visionary Leadership in Action

MassArt's leadership welcomes a dynamic quartet of leaders to three of our governing bodies this year, including a new chair for our Board of Trustees.

Karen M. Keane

Chair, Board of Trustees

Karen Keane is Chairman Emerita of Bonhams Skinner, overseeing the operation of one of the world's leading auction houses, the largest in New England. She was instrumental in the establishment of Bonhams Skinner as a world-class auction gallery in Boston, as well as the company's expansion into specialty areas including Fine Musical Instruments, Science & Technology, Rare Books & Manuscripts, Fine Wines, and Judaica.

Karen brings her lifelong passion for art, antiques and the study of material culture to bear for Bonhams Skinner's business. She is one of the firm's most versatile appraisers, possessing a broad knowledge of furniture, and fine and decorative arts. Her specialty areas include American Furniture & Decorative Arts, Americana, and Folk Art. Karen is USPAP certified by the Appraiser's Association of America. She is also a formidable presence at the auction podium and became the company's first female auctioneer early in her career.

Karen had the privilege to conduct the auction of the rare and magnificent Qing Dynasty vase sold at Bonhams Skinner for a record $24.7 million setting a record for the top grossing lot ever sold in New England.

Karen is also a familiar face and leading appraiser on the PBS Emmy Award-winning TV series "Antiques Roadshow". Sought-after by the media, she is a regular contributor to art and antiques publications, symposiums, websites and blogs. She lectures and conducts benefit auctions and appraisal events for non-profit and for-profit institutions nationwide, including the Annual MassArt Auction, for which she has volunteered as pro-bono auctioneer since the mid-1980s.

Karen holds a Master's degree in Art History from Boston University. She is a former overseer of the DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Worcester Art Museum.

Kelly Sherman '02

Alumni Trustee

Kelly Sherman is an artist and strategy consultant, whose artwork can be viewed at the Barbara Krakow Gallery and Center Street Studio. Her work has been exhibited in public art contexts and resides in numerous private and public collections, such as the Institute of Contemporary Art, where she was a recipient of their Foster Prize. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from MassArt in 2002.

Kelly is also an innovation and strategy consultant. Passionate about art, design thinking, and social justice, she brings a creative and user-centered approach to clients who span the sectors of arts and culture, higher education, and racial and social justice. Kelly was also a strategist at EPAM Continuum, where she served a broad range of Fortune 500 companies and received a Gold IDEA Award for design research from the Industrial Designers Society of America.

In addition to serving on MassArt's board, Kelly has held leadership roles on numerous governance and advisory boards, including the BSA Foundation's Board of Trustees, MIT's List Visual Art Center's Advisory Committee, MassArt's Alumni Leadership Council, and the Mayor's Arts Task Force in her hometown of Cambridge.

Heily Rivas '24

Student Government Association President

MassArt senior Heily Rivas has never been one to shy away from getting involved and making an impact. As a member of the MassArt Activities Board, she's helped plan a variety of cultural events on campus. Some of the events she coordinated—including the Latin American Heritage Celebration and the West African Celebration—even featured musical and dance performances from the Boston Conservatory at Berklee. In the fall of 2022, Heily joined MassArt's Student Government Association, and the following year, she was elected as SGA president.

"MassArt helps students understand how much power they have—as artists, as designers, as thinkers, and as creative people. And I can't wait to see how future students capitalize on that power to propel the world to where it needs to be."

Kay Ehwa '24

Student Trustee

Kay Ehwa is a conceptual installation artist and event planner with a focus in lighting design based in Boston, Massachusetts. They have assisted in six SIM major semester shows and are co-Chairperson of the Pulse Advocates through MassArt Counseling Center. They were a member of the Eventworks 22-23 cohort, who produced several events and a series of artist talks—including a sit down with Alumni Brian McCook, known as drag artist Katya Zamolochikova. In collaboration with Megan Ross, Kay co-created VideoStore, a floor-to-ceiling immersive traveling gallery of a 1980s video rental store with a cast of employees & an underlying mystery, recently installed in Godine Family Gallery.

Kay is also a founding member of the Learning Optimization Advocates For Studios, a group dedicated to providing MassArt students with the better learning environments & studio spaces. They are in their senior year in the SIM major at MassArt, set to graduate with a BFA in May 2024.

Photo credits: Kelly Sherman, Amy Fink, Katy Hamm, Karen Keane photo courtesy of Bonhams Skinner

2023 Board of Trustees

The Massachusetts College of Art and Design Board of Trustees is a dedicated group of professionals who are appointed by the Governor to provide oversight of the College. MassArt is fortunate to count arts and culture leaders among this leadership group, as well as our own committed alumni.

Karen M. Keane Chair
Daren Bascome '93 Vice Chair
Sunand Bhattacharya
Kay Ehwa '24, Student Trustee
Lina Giraldo '06
Denise Korn
Peter Nessen
Janice M. Saragoni
Kelly Sherman '02
Linda Snyder
Greg Stone

2023 MassArt Foundation Board

The Massachusetts College of Art and Design Foundation Board is a committed body of supporters who volunteer their time to advance the mission of MassArt. In concert with the Vice President for Advancement, they identify and support fundraising priorities that help the College and its community flourish.

Deirdre Nectow Chair
Andra Dekkers Vice Chair
Patricia Rivers Vice Chair
Ted MacLean Treasurer
Henry Biner
Katie Block
Suzanne Bump
Richard Coffman
Nina Fletcher '91
Mary K. Grant President
Courtney Jacobovits
Alison Judd M'07
Ashley Karger
Wanita Kennedy
Fred HC Liang Professor, Fine Arts 2D & Printmaking
Elizabeth Lowrey H'19
James Mason '81 Associate Provost & Dean of Faculty
Brenda Molife, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
Emma Pickard
Janice M. Saragoni Trustee Representative
Valentine Talland
Chiara Trabucchi

Credits

Design
Sametz Blackstone Associates

Printing
DS Graphics | Universal Wilde

Massachusetts College of Art and Design
621 Huntington Avenue, Boston MA 02115

massart.edu

Follow us on:

@massartboston

Massachusetts College of Art and Design

Massachusetts College of Art and Design

@MassArt